

## U.S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 15, 2021

Contact: Office of Public Affairs 202-514-6551

## **Inmate Death at FCI Talladega**

WASHINGTON, D.C.: On Monday, November 16, 2020, inmate George Maurice Steele tested positive for COVID-19 at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Talladega in Talladega, Alabama and was placed in medical isolation. On Wednesday, January 13, 2021, Mr. Steele was found unresponsive. Responding staff immediately initiated life-saving measures. Staff requested emergency medical services (EMS) and life-saving efforts continued. Mr. Steele was transported by EMS to a local hospital. On the same day, Mr. Steele, who had long-term, pre-existing medical conditions, which the CDC lists as risk factors for developing more severe COVID-19 disease, was pronounced deceased by hospital medical staff.

Mr. Steele was a 37-year-old male who was sentenced in the Southern District of Mississippi to a 108-month sentence for Conspiracy to Distribute Crack Near a School, Distribution of Crack, and Use, Carry, and Possession of a Loaded Firearm. He had been in custody at FCI Talladega since May 13, 2019.

FCI Talladega is a medium security facility that currently houses 907 male offenders.

The Bureau of Prisons will continue to provide daily updates and information on actions related to COVID-19 at <a href="https://www.bop.gov/coronavirus/index.jsp.">www.bop.gov/coronavirus/index.jsp.</a>

Additional information about the Bureau of Prisons can be found at www.bop.gov

###